REMARKS

A form PTO 1449 was filed on 30 October 2003. However, a copy of the form PTO-1449 was not received with the office action. Therefore, the applicants respectfully request an initialed copy of the form PTO-1449.

Claims 1, 2 and 4-8 are pending. The applicants respectfully request reconsideration and allowance of this application in view of the above amendments and the following remarks.

The specification has been amended to remedy a cosmetic defect noted during a review of the application.

Claims 1, 2 and 4-7 were rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over JP A-8-216735 ("JP '735") combined with shifting the location of the radio receiver. Claim 1 has been amended; support for the wording in amended claim 1 is located in the application as filed, for example, page 9, lines 17-25; page 7, lines 11-18; page 12, lines 6-10; FIG. 2A; FIG. 2B; and FIG. 10. Insofar as the rejection may be applied to the claims as amended, the applicants respectfully request that this rejection be withdrawn for reasons including the following, which are provided by way of example.

Independent claim 1 recites in combination, for example, "a radio receiver including a receiver circuit and an antenna for receiving a radio signal, the antenna being integrated in the receiver circuit, wherein the radio receiver is arranged on a side of the meter circuit board opposite to a side on which a high-frequency signal source component that generates a high frequency signal is mounted, ... the receiver circuit is electrically connected to the meter circuit by a connector.."

To properly reject a claimed invention, the examiner must establish a *prima* facie case of obviousness. To establish a *prima facie* case of obviousness with respect to a claimed invention,

all the claim limitations must be taught or suggested by the prior art reference (or references when combined). *In re Royka*, 490 F.2d 981, 180 USPQ 580 (CCPA 1974). Moreover, there must be some suggestion or motivation, either in the references themselves or in the knowledge generally available to one of ordinary skill in the art, to modify the reference or to combine reference teachings. Furthermore, the teaching or suggestion to make the claimed combination and a reasonable expectation of success must both be found in the prior art and not based on applicant's disclosure. *In re Vaeck*, 947 F.2d 488, 20 U.S.P.Q.2d 1438 (Fed. Cir. 1991).

The examiner bears the burden of establishing this *prima facie* case. *In re Deuel*, 34 U.S.P.Q.2d 1210, 1214 (Fed. Cir. 1995). If the examination at the initial stage does not produce a *prima facie* case of unpatentability, then without more the applicant is entitled to grant of patent. *In re Oetiker*, 24 U.S.P.Q.2d 1443, 1444 (Fed. Cir. 1992).

The applicants provide herein a selection of some examples of limitations in the claims which are neither taught nor suggested by JP '735. The Office Action admits that JP '735 does not teach the location of the radio receiver. (Office Action page 2.) Recognizing that JP '735 fails to teach and/or suggest the invention as claimed, the examiner argues that shifting the location of the radio receiver is within the knowledge of a skilled artisan, and cites U.S. Patent No. 5,550,713, Pressler et al. ("Pressler") as support for mounting an electromagnetic shielding assembly to remedy the deficiencies.

JP '735 shows that the key-less unit (30), cited by the examiner as the radio receiver, and the meter circuit are formed on a single circuit board (23). The antenna (26) is connected to the circuit board (23).

According to claim 1, to the contrary, the meter unit is provided with the meter circuit and the receiver circuit, so that the receiver circuit is dedicated to the radio receiver. Also

according to claim 1, the receiver circuit is connected to the meter circuit by the connector. Moreover, in contrast, according to claim 1, the antenna is integrated in the receiver circuit.

Hence, JP '735, alone or modified as proposed by the examiner, fails to teach or suggest the combination of features recited in independent claim 1, when considered as a whole.

With respect to the rejected dependent claims, applicant respectfully submits that these claims are allowable not only by virtue of their dependency from independent claim 1, but also because of additional features they recite in combination.

New claim 8 has been added to further define the invention, and is believed to be patentable for reasons including these set out above. Support for new claim 8 is located in the application as filed, for example, page 7, lines 11-18; page 12, lines 6-10; FIG. 2A, and FIG. 10.

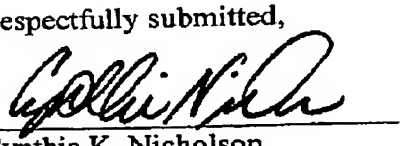
Applicants respectfully submit that, as described above, the cited prior art does not show or suggest the combination of features recited in the claims. Applicants do not concede that the cited prior art shows any of the elements recited in the claims. However, applicants have provided specific examples of elements in the claims that are clearly not present in the cited prior art.

Applicants strongly emphasize that one reviewing the prosecution history should not interpret any of the examples applicant has described herein in connection with distinguishing over the prior art as limiting to those specific features in isolation. Rather, for the sake of simplicity, applicants have provided examples of why the claims described above are distinguishable over the cited prior art.

In view of the foregoing, the applicants submit that this application is in condition for allowance. A timely notice to that effect is respectfully requested. If questions relating to patentability remain, the examiner is invited to contact the undersigned by telephone.

If there are any problems with the payment of fees, please charge any underpayments and credit any overpayments to Deposit Account No. 50-1147.

Respectfully submitted,



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